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Connecticut Citizens Defense League, Inc.

Greetings members of the Appropriations Committee,

My name is Scott Wilson, and I reside in New London. I am also a co-founder and the president of the Connecticut Citizens Defense League Inc. We are a state-wide grass roots pro 2nd Amendment organization with 4,500+ members. I am writing in tentative favor of SB307 'AN ACT PROVIDING FUNDING FOR THE STATE-WIDE FIREARMS TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE'.

While I believe that the majority of the proposals that have been put forth so far in this session only punish law abiding gun owners, I wholeheartedly agree that taking firearms out of the hands of known criminals and those supplying them is a step in the right direction.

People in a number of Connecticut cities are often afraid to go out in public knowing that doing so may make them an easy target for criminals. Children often cannot play in their own front yards without the fear of being hit by stray bullets. Store clerks work their shifts understanding that their lives could be ended even after handing money over at gunpoint.

While I reiterate my support of this bill, I am concerned over the historical number of gun bills that we have seen introduced this legislative session. Many of these bills (if passed) would include language that incorporates severe penalties merely for owning certain firearms and components that were more than likely legally purchased. No one that goes to work every day and lives a peaceful existence should ever live in fear of a swat team kicking in their doors in the middle of the night.

Based on the introducer of the bill (Senator Guglielmo) and his respect to the rights of lawful gun owners, I believe that the intent is to operate the Task Force as it was prior to its defunding. Therefore, I cautiously offer my support of this bill.

Scott Wilson
President
CCDL, Inc.

Every citizen has a right
to bear arms in defense
of himself and the state.

Connecticut State Constitution, Article First, Section 15